

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Action mailed September 26, 2006. Claims 1-72 remain pending in this case.

In the Official Action, the Examiner required the restriction of the invention under 35 USC 121 to one of the following: the invention of claims 1-14 (Group I; composition), the invention of claims 15-57 (Group II; composition), the invention of claims 58-60 (Group III; method), or the invention of claims 61-72 (Group IV; method). Applicant assumes that the Examiner intended "claims 1-14" of Group I to be "claims 1-13" and that the Examiner intended "claims 15-57" of Group II to be "claims 14-57". In the Official Action, the Examiner also required the election of six species under 35 USC 121, one each for the genres of demulcent, surfactant, preservative, buffer, cerumenolytically acceptable enzyme, and enzyme stabilizing agent. In response, Applicant elects the invention of claims 14-57 (Group II) and the species (c) glycerin (demulcent), (i) poly(oxyethylene)-poly(oxypropylene) block copolymers (surfactant), (m) benzalkonium halides (preservative), (r) citrate buffer and salts thereof (buffer), (y) trypsin (including methyl trypsin) (cerumenolytically acceptable enzyme), and (mm) monomeric polyols (enzyme stabilizing agent), upon which generic claims 14-15, 21-24, 34, 41, and 50-54 and species claims 16-17, 19-20, 25-33, 35-40, 42-45, 47-49, and 55-57 read.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and favorable action on all the remaining claims in this case.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any amount required for the filing of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to **Deposit Account No. 501051 of Alcon, Inc.**

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Response, please feel free to contact the undersigned attorney at the phone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. David Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "W." and last name "Lee" clearly distinguishable.

W. David Lee
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